

WILLIAM NICHOLAS.

FEBRUARY 29, 1840.

Read, and laid on the table.

Mr. RUSSELL, from the Committee of Claims, made the following

REPORT:

The Committee of Claims, to whom was referred the petition of William Nicholas, praying compensation for two horses lost in the military service of the United States in 1814, make the following report:

The petitioner was a private in a company of United States mounted rangers, commanded by Captain James Audrain, in the expedition under Major Holmes, in the winter of 1814. One of the horses (for the loss of which compensation is claimed) cost the petitioner \$87, and died in consequence of having been wounded. The petitioner then purchased another horse, for which he paid \$100. This horse was stolen from the encampment at the river Rouge by the hostile Indians, and was not afterwards recovered.

It does not appear when or in what manner the wound was inflicted, which caused the death of the horse first mentioned; and until the case is brought within the principle which has hitherto prevailed in making compensation for the loss of horses in the service of the United States, the claim cannot be entertained. Further proof, therefore, will be required, before compensation for the loss of this horse can be awarded.

As to the second horse, the loss did not arise from any of the hazards guarantied against by the Government, and for that reason no compensation can be allowed for him.

The committee submit the following resolution:

Resolved, That the prayer of the petitioner ought not to be granted.

Blair & Rives, printers.